

WLB 2016

Women's Legislative Briefing



KEYNOTE PANEL SPEAKER

Congressman John Delaney

Congressman John Delaney was elected in 2012 to serve Maryland's Sixth District, which

encompasses portions of the Washington D.C. suburbs of Montgomery and Frederick Counties and all of Washington, Allegany, and Garrett Counties. Delaney is the only former CEO of a publicly traded company serving in the House of Representatives, having done that twice, and brings to Washington an extensive experience as a successful entrepreneur and as a private sector and non-profit leader.

As the son of a union electrician, John grew up in a blue collar household. Scholarships from his father's union (IBEW Local 164), the American Legion, VFW, and the Lion's Club, allowed John to attend college. John is a graduate of Columbia University and Georgetown University Law Center. A business builder, Delaney founded two New York Stock Exchange listed companies before the age of 40, and is a past winner of the Ernst & Young Entrepreneur of the Year Award.

John spent his business career starting and running successful companies and helping small businesses grow. John's companies were both founded in Maryland. CapitalSource, which Delaney launched in 2000 and became a public company in 2003, lent money to thousands of small businesses around the country and has been recognized by the Treasury Department for lending to disadvantaged communities while also receiving numerous awards as one of the best places to work in the Washington D.C. region. John is Chairman Emeritus of CapitalSource. Prior to CapitalSource, he founded HealthCare Financial Partners, a successful company that was started in 1993 and became a public company in 1996.

John and his wife April-McClain Delaney have made community service a priority, especially in the field of education, the provision of core services, and issues affecting children. They are generous supporters of the public interest law initiatives at Georgetown University Law Center, where they endowed the Delaney Family Professorship in Public Interest Law and have funded significant scholarships for student's interest in public service. John is a member of the Board of Directors of Georgetown University and the National Symphony Orchestra, was the past Chairman of the Board at St. Patrick's Episcopal Day School and was a past member of the Board of Directors for the International Center for Research on Women.

April is an attorney and an education and children's advocate in the non-profit sector. April currently serves as the Washington Director for Common Sense Media, a non-profit dedicated to educating families on social media, technology, and digital literacy. The Delaneys are members of the Little Flower Catholic Church in Bethesda, Maryland, and have been longtime supporters of Catholic Charities. John and April have four daughters and live in Montgomery County.

Congressman Delaney's primary focus in office is to restore our nation's economic competitiveness so that we can have a strong middle class, raise our standard of living, and expand the number of good jobs available to Americans. In 2011, Delaney founded Blueprint Maryland, a non-profit dedicated to invigorating Maryland's private sector. Blueprint Maryland gathered businesspeople, educators, labor representatives, and policy experts together to chart a way towards a high-tech, high-information, economy.

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KEYNOTE PANEL SPEAKER Congresswoman Donna Edwards

Congresswoman Donna F. Edwards

represents Maryland's 4th Congressional District, comprising portions of Prince George's and Anne Arundel Counties. She was sworn in after a special election to become a member of the U.S. House of Representatives in the 110th Congress in June 2008, becoming the first African American woman to represent Maryland in Congress.

Congresswoman Edwards has enjoyed a diverse career as a nonprofit public interest advocate and in the private sector on NASA's Spacelab project. In 1994, as co-founder and executive director of the National Network to End Domestic Violence, she led the effort to pass the Violence Against Women Act that was signed into law by President Clinton.

Since being sworn in, Congresswoman Edwards has secured a number of legislative accomplishments to improve the lives of working families in her Congressional District and around the country. Her first act as a Member of Congress was to add Maryland to the Afterschool Suppers Program, ensuring access to nutritional suppers to afterschool and youth development programs in schools located in low-income areas. During the health care debate, Congresswoman Edwards secured a provision that holds insurance companies accountable for unjustifiable rate increases.

Congresswoman Edwards' legislative work continues to focus on creating jobs, growing the economy, and increasing opportunity for hardworking families. She introduced legislation to expand research and development, domestic manufacturing, and infrastructure spending; increase high school graduation rates; renew Pell Grant eligibility for incarcerated individuals; reduce opioid overdose;

and ensure quality, affordable child care. She has championed efforts to protect and strengthen Social

Security and Medicare, defend women's rights and expand economic opportunity for women, raise awareness of domestic violence, and get unlimited money out of politics. She was the first Member of the House to introduce and champion a constitutional amendment to overturn the Supreme Court's Citizens United decision.

In the 114th Congress, Congresswoman Edwards serves:

- On the Transportation and Infrastructure Committee where she sits on:
 - The Subcommittee on Highways and Transit
 - The Subcommittee on Water Resources and Environment
 - The Subcommittee on Economic Development, Public Buildings, and Emergency Management
- On the Science, Space, and Technology Committee where she sits on:
 - The Subcommittee on Space - Ranking Member
 - The Subcommittee on Environment

She was also selected by Democratic Leader Nancy Pelosi (CA-12) to serve as co-chair of the Steering and Policy Committee and the chairwoman of the Democracy For All Task Force: Restoring People-Powered Politics.

Rep. Edwards completed undergraduate studies at Wake Forest University and received her Juris Doctor from the University of New Hampshire School of Law. She is the proud mother of one son.



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KEYNOTE PANEL SPEAKER

Congressman John Sarbanes



Congressman John Sarbanes has represented Maryland's Third Congressional District – which spans portions of Anne Arundel County, Baltimore City, Baltimore County, Howard County and Montgomery County – in the U.S. Congress since 2007. He currently serves on the House Committee on Energy and Commerce, in addition to the Subcommittee on Health and the Subcommittee on Energy and Power.

Born and raised in Baltimore, Congressman Sarbanes has experience working in the private, public and nonprofit sectors. He and his family live in Towson, giving him the opportunity to drive home every night and hear from his constituents. Listening to their concerns allows him to better represent Maryland and has shaped his work in the House of Representatives.

Congressman Sarbanes is committed to reducing the influence of the wealthy and well-connected in politics. To this end, he has authored the Government By the People Act, which aims to empower everyday Americans by elevating their voices in Congress with a tax credit and matching fund.

As a Marylander, Congressman Sarbanes shares his state's strong tradition of environmentalism that is rooted in a passion for the Chesapeake Bay. He has led efforts in Congress to clean up the Chesapeake Bay with a particular focus on empowering residents of the Bay watershed to become citizen stewards of the Bay and give them an active role in restoring it. He has also worked to expand environmental education opportunities for children, authoring the No Child Left Inside Act to promote healthier children and communities.

Congressman Sarbanes has fought to expand higher education opportunities through financial assistance programs like the Pell Grant and has authored laws to help students repay their college loans after they graduate. In this effort, Congressman Sarbanes wrote a law to create the Public Service Loan Forgiveness Option, which provides graduates with forgiveness of remaining student loan debt after 10 years of work in public service or the non-profit sector. The new law helps teachers, nurses, first responders and other public servants pay for college. It allows more people to follow their

dreams in careers that are important and rewarding, but not always particularly lucrative.

As part of the development and implementation of health care policy, Congressman Sarbanes has focused on ensuring there are enough doctors and nurses to provide quality care for all Americans. He has helped create new laws that address health care workforce shortages, especially in primary care, and has strengthened programs for physician scholarships, loan forgiveness and residency training.

Before coming to Congress, Congressman Sarbanes served for seven years with the Maryland State Superintendent as liaison to the Baltimore City Public Schools, working to make Maryland's public school system one of the best in the nation. Prior to his work for Baltimore City Public Schools, Congressman Sarbanes practiced law for eighteen years at Venable LLP. There, he led the firm's health care practice for six years, representing nonprofit hospitals and senior living providers in their mission to deliver high-quality health care to the people of Maryland. At Venable, Congressman Sarbanes also worked with public interest organizations in Maryland, like the Public Justice Center, where he championed efforts to protect consumers, provide decent public housing and ensure fair treatment in the workplace.

Congressman Sarbanes graduated from the Woodrow Wilson School of Public and International Affairs at Princeton University and studied law and politics in Greece on a Fulbright Scholarship. After graduating from Harvard Law School, he returned to Baltimore, where he clerked for Judge J. Frederick Motz on the federal district court and the following year began his law practice at Venable.

Since childhood, Congressman Sarbanes has attended the Greek Orthodox Cathedral of the Annunciation in Baltimore and he has also been active with his wife and children in the Bolton Street Synagogue. For more than twenty years, he has served as a board member of the Institute for Christian and Jewish Studies, which seeks to promote understanding and dialogue among people of different religious faiths.

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KEYNOTE PANEL SPEAKER

Congressman Chris Van Hollen



Congressman Chris Van Hollen was elected to Congress in 2002 and quickly earned a reputation as an active, engaged, and effective member of the House of Representatives. He is working to advance policies that support job creation and economic growth, reduce the deficit, and put America on a path to fiscal sustainability and broadly-shared prosperity. Throughout his career, he has been a champion of education, veterans, energy, the environment, health care, civil rights, and small business.

In addition to representing the Eighth District of Maryland and serving in House leadership, Congressman Van Hollen was re-elected by his colleagues in 2012 to serve a second term as the top Democrat on the House Budget Committee. In this position, he serves as a key point person on budget and economic legislation in the House. The Washington Post described Congressman Van Hollen as a “bona fide budget expert” and the LA Times said he “is among his party’s best budget minds.” Roll Call has noted that “Van Hollen gets near-universal respect from his colleagues for his intellectual firepower and combination of policy and political chops.”

Congressman Van Hollen is a tireless advocate for Maryland in Congress, and his leadership has helped to obtain funding for a wide range of critical investments in our community, including infrastructure, biotechnology, and education; public transportation in the Washington National Capital area; and anti-gang initiatives. Congressman Van Hollen was given the “Courageous Leadership Award” from The Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Committee and was recognized by Washingtonian Magazine as the “Best Metro Area Member of Congress” and as the “Best Local Elected Official” by Bethesda Magazine.

He is a leader of efforts to clean up the Chesapeake Bay, and fought successfully to obtain a historic boost in federal funds for the Bay as part of the Farm Bill and to secure provisions in the Recovery Act that provided loan guarantees for renewable energy projects. He also played an integral role in the effort to pass comprehensive health care reform

and fought to ensure that young adults receive expanded access to health insurance. He has been a staunch advocate for critical government reforms. He continues to lead the fight for the DISCLOSE Act to end secret money in elections, and championed bills on lobbying disclosure reform and whistleblower protections that were enacted into law. A former professional staff member on the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, Congressman Van Hollen has a strong background in national security policy. The son of a Foreign Service officer, he lived and studied abroad for many years and has remained active in issues related to U.S. foreign policy and national security.

Congressman Van Hollen has received numerous leadership awards for his legislative activities, including the top award from the Maryland League of Conservation Voters for his work on environmental issues; the “Congressional Champion for Real and Lasting Change” award from Save the Children; the “Outstanding Legislative Leadership Award” from the Mattie Miracle Cancer Foundation for his work on childhood cancer; the “Legislator of the Year” award from Montgomery County Chamber of Commerce; the “Champion of Working Families” award from Progressive Maryland; the “Distinguished Service” award from the Committee for Education Funding; and the “Champion Award” from the Veteran Institute for Procurement for his work to help veteran-owned businesses.

Before his election to the U.S. House of Representatives, Congressman Van Hollen served 4 years in the Maryland House of Delegates and 8 years in the Maryland Senate. He also worked as an attorney in private practice for 10 years. He is a graduate of Swarthmore College, the John F. Kennedy School of Government at Harvard University, and Georgetown University Law Center. He lives in Kensington, Maryland with his wife, Katherine, and their three children, Anna, Nicholas, and Alexander.